**IN THE UNITED STATES
PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

Application No.	:	09/514,149	Confirmation No. 9235
Applicants	:	S. Afshar, et al.	
Filed	:	February 28, 2000	
Group Art Unit	:	2126	
Examiner	:	L. Truong	
Docket No.	:	1999-0710	
Title	:	PARADIGM IN MULTIMEDIA SERVICES CREATION METHODOLOGY, AND NEW SERVICE CREATION AND SERVICE EXECUTION ENVIRONMENTS	

Commissioner for Patents
PO Box 1450
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450.

PETITION UNDER 37 CFR §1.181 TO WITHDRAW HOLDING OF ABANDONMENT

This is a petition under 37 CFR §1.181 requesting withdrawal of the holding of abandonment in this patent application.

This application was filed on February 28, 2000. An Office Action was mailed on January 29, 2003 with a shortened statutory period for reply of 3 months, making a response due on April 29, 2003.

A Notice of Abandonment was mailed on January 29, 2004 indicating that the application was abandoned in view of Applicants' failure to file a proper reply to the Office Action.

Applicants' hereby request withdrawal of the holding of abandonment in view of an Amendment which was timely filed on April 29, 2003 under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.8(a) via facsimile transmission.

As evidence of the timely filing of this response, attached to this petition are copies of the following documents:
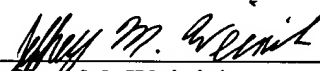
1. an Amendment (8 pages) in this application dated April 29, 2003;

2. a Facsimile Cover Sheet (1 page) containing a Certificate of Transmission Under 37 CFR 1.8 certifying that the Amendment was facsimile transmitted to the United States Patent and Trademark Office on April 29, 2003; and

3. the sending facsimile unit's transmission report confirming transmission of 9 pages on April 29, 2003.

The Notice of Abandonment indicates in numbered paragraph 7 that "[t]he phone call was made to applicant's representative to make sure that the application was abandoned." However, an inquiry has been made and the undersigned Applicants' representative has been informed that there is no indication in Applicants' files regarding such a telephone call from the Examiner.

Based on the information set forth above, Applicants request withdrawal of the holding of abandonment and the entry and consideration of the attached Amendment dated April 29, 2003.

Respectfully submitted,

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IN THE UNITED STATES
PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

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Serial No.   09/514,149 (Conf. No. 9235)   Group Art Unit : 2126

Filing Date   February 28, 2000

Docket No   1999-0710   Examiner: Lechi Truong

Title   A NEW PARADIGM IN MULTIMEDIA SERVICES CREATION
METHODOLOGY, AND NEW SERVICE CREATION AND
SERVICE EXECUTION ENVIRONMENTS

HONORABLE COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20231

AMENDMENT

SIR:

In response to the Office Action dated January 29, 2003, please amend the above-identified utility patent application as follows:

Amendments to the Claims are reflected in the listing of claims which begins on page 2 of this paper.

Remarks/Arguments begin on page 6 of this paper.

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

Claims 1-11 (cancelled).

Claim 12 (currently amended): ~~The~~ A method ~~according to claim 11,~~ of creating multimedia services in a network comprising the steps of:

a) assembling graphical language blocks into a service logic script, wherein said graphical language blocks each represent service control or call control functions and wherein each block has at least one input or output for passing a token between blocks;

b) installing said service logic script in a service execution environment; and

c) translating said graphical language blocks into programming language objects when said service logic script is installed and executed.

Claim 13 (original): The method according to claim 12, wherein a block begins execution when the block receives said token.

Claim 14 (original): The method according to claim 13, wherein a plurality of blocks may execute simultaneously.

Claim 15 (currently amended): The method according to claim 14, wherein said graphical language blocks represent complex event driven actions which take place in the network and which are hidden from a user.

Claims 16-23 (cancelled).

Claim 24 (currently amended): ~~The~~ A service creation system ~~according to claim 23~~ for creating multimedia services, comprising:

a service creation environment for creating a service logic script, the service creation environment further comprising:

an editor for providing graphical capability to create a service logic script for a desired service using language graphical objects, wherein said language graphical

objects each represent service control or call control functions and wherein each block has at least one input or output for passing a token between blocks;
a translator for translating language graphical objects into lower level language executable objects; and
a data repository for storing service and customer related data necessary for the desired system;.
a service execution environment for executing said service logic script; and
application programming interfaces between said service creation environment and said service execution environment.

Claim 25 (original): The service creation system according to claim 24, wherein a block begins execution when the block receives said token.

Claim 26 (original): The service creation system according to claim 25, wherein a plurality of blocks may execute simultaneously.

Claim 27 (currently amended): The service creation system according to claim ~~17~~26, wherein the desired service is a call follow-me service.

Claim 28 (currently amended): The service creation system according to claim ~~17~~26, wherein the desired service is a restricted calling service.

Claim 29 (currently amended): The service creation system according to claim ~~17~~26, wherein said language graphical objects represent complex event driven actions which take place in a network and which are hidden from a user.

Claim 30 (new): The service creation system according to claim 29, wherein said service excution environment further comprises a service locator, a service instantiator, and a service logic executor.

Claim 31 (new): The service creation system according to claim 30, wherein said service locator identifies service logic based on a service subscriber identification.

Claim 32 (new): The service creation system according to claim 31, wherein said service locator selects a service ID and finds a service logic execution environment in which the logic is stored.

Claim 33 (new): The service creation system according to claim 30, wherein said service instantiator instantiates invoked service logic with required service and subscriber data so as to be ready to be executed in the service execution environment.

Claim 34 (new): The service creation system according to claim 30, wherein said service logic executor loads executable service logic code, reads and stores service and subscriber data, provides inter-process communication between various service logic scripts that are being executed concurrently.

Claim 35 (new): The method according to claim 15, wherein said service logic script captures all interactions with a service subscriber, requests network resources on behalf of the service subscriber, provides access to all required data, and prepares information for service billing purposes.

Claim 36 (new): The method according to claim 15, wherein service control and call control functions of the graphical language blocks are mapped into service control and call control functions of the application programming interfaces (APIs), which are exposed in the service execution environment.

Claim 37 (new): The method according to claim 15, wherein dependencies are established between service control function or call control functions of the graphical language blocks and event notifications sent from the service execution environment.

Claim 38 (new): The method according to claim 15, wherein next state of the service control or call control function is determined upon its completion or upon receiving an event notification from the service execution environment.

Claim 39 (new): The method according to claim 36, wherein the application programming interfaces provide access to and control of network resources which are used during service invocation by service subscribers.

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Claim 40 (new): The method according to claim 15, further comprising the step of:

determining if a service requires data and automatically storing, populating, and retrieving data during service instantiation.

Claim 41 (new): The method according to claim 40, wherein said data comprises at least one of system data, service data, subscriber data, and local data.

Claim 42 (new): The method according to claim 40, further comprising the step of:

generating service provisioning forms for the entry of required data.

Claim 43 (New): The method according to claim 40, further comprising the step of:

generating subscriber tuning forms to allow a service subscriber to enter data related to the service subscriber.

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Claims 12-15 and 24-43 are pending in the present application after the amendment herein. Claims 12 and 24, formerly dependent claims, have been rewritten in independent form, incorporating all limitations of the base claim and intervening claims.

Claims 1-11 and 16-23 have been herein cancelled. The subject matter of dependent claims 2-10 and 18-22 have been represented as new claims 30-43 dependent upon the new independent claims 12 and 24: new claims 30-34 correspond to the subject matter of cancelled claims 18-22; while new claims 35-43 correspond to the subject matter of cancelled claims 2-10.

Reconsideration of the application is respectfully requested.

Section 103 Rejection

Claims 12 and 24 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over U.S. Patent No. 6,002,941 to Ablay et al. (herein referred to as the "Ablay patent") in view of an abstract entitled "From SIBS to Distributed Objects: A Transformative Approach to Service Creation," by Elie Najm et al. (herein referred to as the "Najm reference") and further in view of U.S. Patent No. 6,351,646 to Jellema et al. (herein referred to as the "Jellema patent"). Applicants respectfully traverse.

The Examiner cites the Ablay patent as teaching "graphical blocks" and a "service logic script", citing col. 2, lines 57-67, column 7, lines 29-64 and column 5, lines 38-67. Applicants respectfully disagree. The "service building blocks" discussed in the Ablay patent neither disclose nor suggest the "graphical language blocks" as claimed in the present invention. The "graphical language blocks" as recited in the original claims 1-15 refers to the particular abstraction devised by the inventors, referred to in the specification as "Language Graphical Objects" or "LGOs". As described in the specification in more detail, "graphical language blocks" "represent service control and call control primitive functions" and they "pass a token to their next object(s) at certain points, as determined by their internal logic, during their execution." Summary of Invention, Page 2, Lines 13-23. Claim 12, amended into independent form, essentially recites these limitations and makes clear that the term "graphical language block" refers to a different type of service creation abstraction. Claim 12 recites that the "graphical language blocks each represent service control or call control functions" wherein "each block has at least one input or output for passing a token between the blocks".

The "service logic script" in the present claims represents assembled "graphical language blocks". Thus, since the Ablay patent does not disclose "graphical language blocks" as claimed in claim 12, it also does not disclose "graphical language blocks" assembled into a "service logic

script." Nor does it disclose or suggest "translating said graphical language blocks into programming language objects when said service logic script is installed and executed."

The Najm reference is cited by the Examiner as teaching "translat[ion] into a java like language (page 1)." The Najm reference, which notably is undated, merely indicates that a service independent block can be translated into a "Java like language" in a "correctness-preserving transformation" with no further description. There is no disclosure that a "graphical language block" – rather than a "service independent block" – is translated into "programming language objects when said service logic script is installed and executed."

The Examiner cites to the Albay patent at column 9, lines 38-45 and column 12, lines 60-67 as teaching a "token." The Albay patent does not refer to or suggest "passing a token" between "graphical language blocks". Rather, the Albay patent speaks to application programming interface (API) messages that invokes a "service building block" in the context of the actual invocation of the service in the service execution environment. The "graphical language blocks" in the present invention, as mentioned above, are translated into "programming language objects" before execution in a "service execution environment". As further mentioned in claim 36 (replacing and representing the same subject matter as cancelled claim 3), the service control and call control functions of the "graphical language blocks" are mapped into service control and call control functions of the "application programming interfaces (APIs), which are exposed in the service execution environment." The API messages discussed in the Albay patent, at best, correspond to the "event notifications" in the "service execution environment" referred to in claims 37 and 38. Thus, the API messages discussed in the Albay patent do not teach or suggest the "tokens" passed in between the "graphical language blocks"—since they are transferred at a different level of abstraction in the service creation system.

The Albay patent and the Jellema patent both appear to be directed to adapting intelligent network concepts, such as service independent building blocks (SIBs), specifically to the context of wireless communications. The present invention, on the other hand, utilizes a different abstraction, the "LGO", which, in accordance with a preferred embodiment, is suited for utilization for subscribers to IP telephony and multimedia services.

Accordingly, new independent claim 12 is believed to be allowable over the references cited.

Claims 13-15 and 35-43 are dependent upon claim 12 and, accordingly, are also believed to be allowable.

With respect to claim 24, now rewritten in independent form, the Examiner relies again on the above reasoning with respect to claim 12. For similar reasons, claim 24 is not rendered obvious by the cited references. Claim 24 recites "an editor for providing graphical capability to create a service logic script for a desired service using language graphical objects" wherein the "language graphical objects" "each represent control or call control functions and wherein each block has at least one input or output for passing a token between blocks". As argued above, the "language graphical objects" similarly represent a different type of abstraction than the service building blocks discussed in the Albay patent.

Claims 25-34 are dependent upon claim 24 and, accordingly, are also believed to be allowable.

Conclusion

Applicants have addressed the rejections of the Examiner and, accordingly, a timely notice of allowance is earnestly solicited. The Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned at 908-532-1904 to discuss any matter concerning the application.

The Office is hereby authorized to charge any additional fees or credit any overpayments under 37 C. F. R. 1.16 and 1.17 to **AT&T Corp. Deposit Account No. 01-2745**.

Respectfully submitted,
Siroos K. Afshar et al.

Date: April 29, 2003

By

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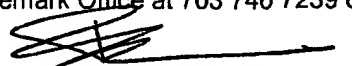
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FIRST NAMED INVENTOR: Siroos K. Afshar

CERTIFICATE OF TRANSMISSION UNDER 37 CFR 1.8

I hereby certify that this correspondence, an Amendment before final, is being facsimile transmitted to the United States Patent and Trademark Office at 703 746 7239 on April 29, 2003.

April 29, 2003

BENJAMIN S. LEE

Facsimile Cover Sheet

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